

**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Stephen A. Palmer, King William County Commonwealth's Attorney; J.S. Walton, King William County Sheriff; and Col. Gerald Massengill, Superintendent, Virginia State Police, announce the indictment of several crack cocaine dealers operating in the West Point, Virginia area. The indictments are the result of a cooperative effort between federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities focusing on drug dealing in the King William County area.

Trevor Donald Thomas, a Trinidadian native, and Deshannon Nicole Taylor, were indicted today in a superseding indictment by a federal grand jury in Richmond on one count of conspiracy to distribute, and eight counts of possession with intent to distribute between five and 50 grams of crack cocaine. The defendants face a maximum penalty of 40 years imprisonment and a fine of \$2,000,000.00, on each count. Both defendants were previously arrested on federal warrants and ordered held without bond by the United States District Court on September 11, 2002. Arraignment is currently scheduled for September 19, 2002, at 1:45 p.m. before United States District Judge Richard L. Williams.

Taylor was also indicted today in a separate case along with Nigel Jason Montigue, also a Trinidadian native. The two were charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute, and one count of possession with intent to distribute between five and 50 grams of crack cocaine. Montigue was previously arrested by state and local authorities and will be turned over to federal authorities. As noted above, defendant Taylor is presently being held in federal custody without bond. An arraignment has not yet been scheduled.

Thomas, Taylor and Montigue are the second, third and fourth defendants prosecuted in this cooperative effort. On May 8, 2002, Brian K. Washington was indicted by a federal grand jury in Richmond on two counts of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine. On June 25, 2002, Washington entered a guilty plea and sentencing is scheduled for September 26, 2002, before United States District Judge Richard L. Williams. Washington faces a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment and a fine of \$1,000,000.00.

United States Attorney Paul J. McNulty stated: “ These cases are good examples of how local, state and federal authorities working together can deal effectively with drug dealers plaguing rural Virginia. This office is committed to working with Virginia law enforcement authorities to maximize the impact these investigations and prosecutions have on our communities.”

Assistant United States Attorney S. David Schiller is prosecuting the case for the U.S. Attorney’s Office.